

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 EB-11 COME-00 SS-20 NSC-10 H-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

CINCUSAFE

CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 238820

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: NATO SPECIALIZATION STUDIES: SUB-GROUP AIR

REF: A. USNATO 5780

B. STATE 208639

C. STATE 213258

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D. USNATO 5875

1. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE DUTCH PROPOSAL MIGHT APPEAR TO MANY ALLIES AS A SELF SERVING ATTEMPT TO REDUCE DUTCH DEFENSE COMMITMENTS. THE FEW SPECIFICS IN THE PROPOSAL APPEAR TO BE FUNCTIONS DUTCH WOULD WISH TO DROP RATHER THAN PICK UP. YOU SHOULD ADVISE THE DUTCH THAT THE US IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE NEGATIVE EFFECT THAT THEIR PROPOSAL COMING AT THIS TIME COULD HAVE UPON THE FUTURE OF SPECIALIZATION. MOREOVER, WE BELIEVE THAT A BETTER WAY CAN BE FOUND TO STUDY SPECIALIZATION IN THE FUTURE THAN BY EXAMINING PROPOSALS THAT ARE LIMITED TO ONE SERVICE.

2. IN ADDITION TO POINTING OUT THE ABOVE MISGIVINGS, YOU SHOULD RECOMMEND TO THE DUTCH THAT IF THEY STILL DESIRE TO PROCEED WITH THEIR PROPOSAL, IT SHOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE DPC IN PERMANENT SESSION AND NOT AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL. THIS WILL AVOID PREJUDICING RECOMMENDATIONS (E) AND (F) OF THE SPECIALIZATION STUDY GROUP REPORT TO THE MINISTERS (REF D).

3. FYI: AS WAS STATED IN REFS B AND C, WE HOPE TO OFFER A NEW APPROACH TO SPECIALIZATION EARLY IN THE YEAR FOLLOWED BY SPECIFIC BROAD RANGING PROPOSALS. OUR PROPOSALS INVOLVING AIR SPECIALIZATION MAY ALSO INVOLVE FUNCTIONS OR ELEMENTS OF OTHER SERVICES (CONTRARY IMPLICATION IN PARA 6 OF REF D IS NOT STRICTLY CORRECT). IN ANY EVENT SUCH PROPOSALS WILL RESULT FROM OUR EXTENSIVE STUDY AND WILL NOT BE READY FOR TABLING IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. END FYI.

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